

**Demographic characteristics**

At the 2016 Census, there were 70,527 Italy-born persons in Victoria (40.5% of Australia's total), ranked 6<sup>th</sup> among the overseas-born communities in Victoria. The Italy-born decreased by 8.3% (6,381) from 76,908 persons in 2011. They are distributed throughout Metropolitan Melbourne, with concentrations in the LGAs of Moreland (11.2%), Darebin (8.7%), Whittlesea (8.5%), Moonee Valley (6.8%) and Hume (4.6%); 10.7% live in regional Victoria.

The Italy-born reflected a significant ageing profile: 2.3% were aged 25 years and below; 6.0% were aged 26-44 years; 23.8% were aged 45-64 years; and 67.8% were aged 65 years and over. The median age was 70 years, compared to 37 years for total Victoria. The gender ratio was 98 males to 100 females, compared to 96 males to 100 females for total Victoria.

There were 352,711 persons identified with Italian ancestry. Most of them were born in Australia (75.2%) and Italy (19.4%). Most (87.1%) of the Italy-born in Victoria had arrived in Australia prior to 1996; 0.7% arrived in 1996-2000; 0.8% arrived in 2001-2005; 1.4% arrived in 2006-2010; and 5.0% arrived in 2011-2016.

Four-fifths (80.5%) of the Italy-born speak Italian (80.5%); 17.8% speak English only. Of those who speak a language other than English, 19.7% speak English not well/not at all. Most (87.9%) of the Italy-born are Catholic; 5.7% have no religion. Nearly three-quarters of the Italy-born (73.7%) have Australian citizenship, compared to 58.3% for the total overseas-born population in Victoria.

(See p.3 on economic characteristics).

**Italy-born in Victoria and Australia: 2016, 2011 and 2006 Census**

Location	2016 Census		2011 Census		2006 Census		Change 2011-2016		Change 2006-2011	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change	Persons	% change
Metro Melbourne <sup>(a)</sup>	63,332	36.4	68,821	37.1	74,175	37.3	-5,489	-8.0	-5,354	-7.2
Rest of Victoria <sup>(b)</sup>	7,197	4.1	8,083	4.4	8,674	4.4	-886	-11.0	-591	-6.8
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>70,527</b>	<b>40.5</b>	<b>76,908</b>	<b>41.5</b>	<b>82,851</b>	<b>41.6</b>	<b>-6,381</b>	<b>-8.3</b>	<b>-5,943</b>	<b>-7.2</b>
<b>Total Australia</b>	<b>174,042</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>185,402</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>199,124</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-11,360</b>	<b>-6.1</b>	<b>-13,722</b>	<b>-6.9</b>

<sup>(a)</sup> Metro Melbourne is equivalent to ABS's Greater Capital Statistical Area.

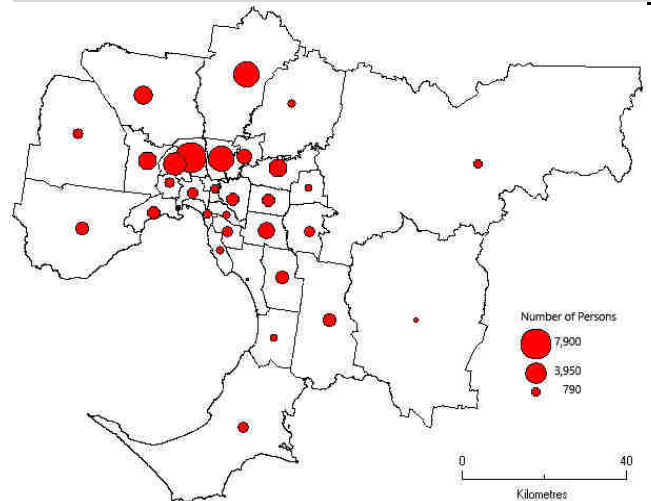
<sup>(b)</sup> Includes "No Usual Address, Victoria" and "Offshore Areas and Migratory, Victoria".

**Distribution of Italy-born, Top 5 LGAs: 2016 Census**

Local Government Area (LGA)	2016 Census		2011 Census		Rank in 2011
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Moreland (C)	7,890	11.2	8,955	11.6	1
Darebin (C)	6,130	8.7	7,167	9.3	2
Whittlesea (C)	5,981	8.5	6,220	8.1	3
Moonee Valley (C)	4,827	6.8	5,389	7.0	4
Hume (C)	3,213	4.6	3,497	4.5	7
Rest of Melbourne	34,916	49.5	37,172	48.3	-
Rest of Reg Vic <sup>(a)</sup>	7,581	10.7	8,467	11.0	-
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>70,527</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>76,908</b>	<b>100.0</b>	-

<sup>(a)</sup> Includes "Unincorporated Vic" and "No Usual Address Vic".

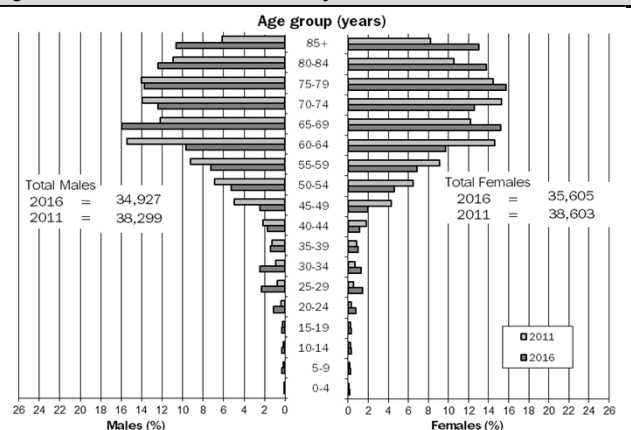
**Distribution of Italy-born in Metro Melbourne, 2016**



**Age Distribution of Italy-born: 2016, 2011 Census**

Age group (years)	2016 Census		2011 Census		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
0-4	86	0.1	40	0.1	115.0
5-11	303	0.4	185	0.2	63.8
12-18	323	0.5	245	0.3	31.8
19-25	952	1.3	389	0.5	144.7
26-44	4,222	6.0	3,315	4.3	27.4
45-54	5,037	7.1	8,715	11.3	-42.2
55-64	11,798	16.7	18,615	24.2	-36.6
65-74	19,827	28.1	20,640	26.8	-3.9
75+	27,981	39.7	24,756	32.2	13.0
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>70,527</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>76,908</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-8.3</b>
<i>Median Age</i>	70		68		
<i>Sex Ratio</i>	98		99		<i>males per 100 females</i>

**Age and Gender Distribution of Italy-born, Victoria, 2016**



**Top 5 Countries of Birth of Persons with Italian Ancestry: 2016, 2011**

Country of birth	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Italy	68,587	19.4	73,713	22.5	-7.0
Argentina	1,567	0.4	1,154	0.4	35.8
England	1,389	0.4	1,110	0.3	25.1
USA	1,129	0.3	867	0.3	30.2
Brazil	1,053	0.3	399	0.1	163.9
Australia	265,172	75.2	240,073	73.2	10.5
Other <sup>(a)</sup>	13,796	3.9	10,638	3.2	29.7
<b>Total responses<sup>(b)</sup></b>	<b>352,711</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>327,954</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>7.5</b>

<sup>(a)</sup> Includes all other countries, and birthplace not stated.

<sup>(b)</sup> Respondents have option of nominating several ancestries; only the 1st two responses were coded. This is the total of both 1st & 2nd responses.

This table is based on the ancestry with the most responses for Italy-born persons.

**Top 5 Languages Spoken at Home, Italy-born: 2016, 2011**

Language other than English	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Italian	56,744	80.5	63,749	82.9	-11.0
Spanish	159	0.2	126	0.2	26.2
Mandarin	73	0.1	11	0.0	563.6
German	48	0.1	20	0.0	140.0
French	45	0.1	30	0.0	50.0
Other languages <sup>(a)</sup>	433	0.6	383	0.5	13.1
English only	12,521	17.8	12,150	15.8	3.1
Not stated	485	0.7	439	0.6	10.5
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>70,527</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>76,908</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-8.3</b>

<sup>(a)</sup> Includes "Inadequately described" and "Non-verbal, so described".

**Top 5 Religious affiliation, Italy-born: 2016, 2011**

Religious affiliation <sup>(a)</sup>	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Catholic	62,018	87.9	70,891	92.2	-12.5
Jehovah's Witnesses	501	0.7	625	0.8	-19.8
Christian, nfd	482	0.7	398	0.5	21.1
Pentecostal	315	0.4	295	0.4	6.8
Buddhism	133	0.2	136	0.2	-2.2
Other religions	851	1.2	956	1.2	-11.0
No religion <sup>(b)</sup>	4,055	5.7	2,097	2.7	93.4
Not stated	2,177	3.1	1,510	2.0	44.2
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>70,527</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>76,908</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-8.3</b>

<sup>(a)</sup> Religion based on 3 digit level of classification.

<sup>(b)</sup> No Religion, so described.

**Year of Arrival of Italy-born: 2016**

Year of arrival <sup>(a)</sup>	Italy-born		Total OSB, Vic <sup>(c)</sup>	
	Persons	%	Persons	%
Before 1996	61,411	87.1	716,865	42.7
1996 - 2000	511	0.7	104,975	6.2
2001 - 2005	542	0.8	149,043	8.9
2006 - 2010	982	1.4	269,729	16.1
2011 - 2016 <sup>(b)</sup>	3,520	5.0	381,130	22.7
Not stated	3,550	5.0	58,517	3.5
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>70,527</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,680,256</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>(a)</sup> Records the year of arrival in Australia for people born overseas

who intend staying in Australia for at least one year.

<sup>(b)</sup> Arrivals up to 9 Aug 2016.

<sup>(c)</sup> OSB stands for Overseas-born.

**Proficiency in English of Italy-born: 2016, 2011**

Proficiency in English	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Speaks English only	12,521	17.8	12,150	15.8	3.1
<i>Speaks other languages and speaks English</i>					
Very well	22,053	31.3	22,808	29.7	-3.3
Well	21,126	30.0	23,725	30.8	-11.0
Not well	12,801	18.2	15,779	20.5	-18.9
Not at all	1,050	1.5	1,471	1.9	-28.6
Not stated <sup>(a)</sup>	983	1.4	971	1.3	1.2
<b>Total Victoria</b>	<b>70,527</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>76,908</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-8.3</b>

<sup>(a)</sup> Includes those who did not state a language and/or proficiency in English.

**Italy-born with Australian Citizenship by Age: 2016, 2011**

Age group (years)	2016		2011		2011-16 % change
	Persons	%	Persons	%	
0-4	38	0.1	17	0.0	123.5
5-11	136	0.3	113	0.2	20.4
12-18	210	0.4	176	0.3	19.3
19-25	265	0.5	210	0.4	26.2
26-44	1,294	2.5	1,776	3.0	-27.1
45-64	13,119	25.2	21,826	37.0	-39.9
65-74	15,795	30.3	15,695	26.6	0.6
75+	21,290	40.8	19,206	32.5	10.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>52,148</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>59,029</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-11.7</b>

% of Italy-born with Australian citizenship, 2016: 73.9%

% of Overseas-born with Australian citizenship, 2016: 58.3%

## Economic characteristics

The education levels of the Italy-born are lower than for total Victoria: 59.8% have school education only and 6.6% have no educational attainment, compared to 38.7% and 1.0% for total Victoria. Only 6.5% have a bachelor degree or higher (24.3% for Victoria).

The labour force participation rate of the Italy-born at 28.0% is much lower than for total Victoria at 60.5%. Their unemployment rate at 4.4% is also lower than total Victoria at 6.6%.

The occupational patterns of the Italy-born are fairly similar to those for total Victoria, with some exceptions. More of them work as managers (15.5%), technicians and trades workers (18.4%) and labourers (12.0%), compared to Victoria (13.5%, 13.1% and 9.0%). Less of them work as professionals (13.9%) compared to 23.3% for Victoria.

The industry of employment patterns for the Italy-born are also fairly similar to those for total Victoria. More of them are employed in construction (11.8%), accommodation and food services (10.2%) than Victoria (8.3% and 6.6%). Less of them are employed in education and training (6.6%) and healthcare and social assistance (8.0%) than Victoria (12.5%).

The weekly personal income distribution pattern for the Italy-born is lower than for total Victoria. More of the Italy-born receive \$1-\$399 (37.4%) and \$400-\$799 (29.3%), compared to 20.1% and 23.1% for total Victoria. Less of the Italy-born receive \$800-\$1,249 (10.3%) and \$1,250 or more (9.6%), compared to Victoria (16.7% and 21.1%).

### Highest level of educational attainment, Italy-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Highest level of educational attainment <sup>(a)</sup>	Italy-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change
Postgraduate Degree	1,155	1.6	716	0.9	439	61.3	260,039	5.4	170,382	3.9	89,657	52.6
Grad Dip & Grad Cert	485	0.7	422	0.6	63	14.9	119,226	2.5	95,352	2.2	23,874	25.0
Bachelor Degree	2,948	4.2	2,480	3.2	468	18.9	798,270	16.5	641,219	14.7	157,051	24.5
Advanced Dip & Diploma	3,339	4.8	2,578	3.4	761	29.5	447,023	9.2	364,758	8.4	82,265	22.6
Certificate	8,229	11.8	8,287	10.8	-58	-0.7	698,036	14.4	614,689	14.1	83,347	13.6
School Education only <sup>(b)</sup>	41,854	59.8	46,870	61.2	-5,016	-10.7	1,877,183	38.7	1,876,620	43.1	563	0.0
No Educ Attainment <sup>(c)</sup>	4,603	6.6	5,033	6.6	-430	-8.5	48,920	1.0	41,809	1.0	7,111	17.0
Not stated etc <sup>(d)</sup>	7,389	10.6	10,202	13.3	-2,813	-27.6	597,010	12.3	550,419	12.6	46,591	8.5
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>70,001</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>76,584</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-6,583</b>	<b>-8.6</b>	<b>4,845,710</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,355,243</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>490,467</b>	<b>11.3</b>

<sup>(a)</sup>This variable is applicable to persons aged 15 years and over.

<sup>(b)</sup>Includes persons who completed school to between Year 8 or below, and Year 12 level.

<sup>(c)</sup>Includes persons whose qualification is out of scope of this variable.

<sup>(d)</sup>Includes "Inadequately described".

### Labour force participation, Italy-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011

Labour force participation <sup>(a)</sup>	Italy-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	% change
<i>In the labour force</i>	19,565	27.7	22,595	29.4	-3,030	-13.4	2,929,590	49.4	2,675,478	50.0	254,112	9.5
Employed	18,695	26.5	21,861	28.4	-3,166	-14.5	2,736,125	46.2	2,530,635	47.3	205,490	8.1
Unemployed	870	1.2	734	1.0	136	18.5	193,465	3.3	144,843	2.7	48,622	33.6
<i>Not in the labour force</i>	48,644	69.0	50,888	66.2	-2,244	-4.4	1,610,130	27.2	1,451,593	27.1	158,537	10.9
<i>Not stated</i>	1,786	2.5	3,102	4.0	-1,316	-42.4	305,978	5.2	228,176	4.3	77,802	34.1
<i>Not applicable</i> <sup>(b)</sup>	528	0.7	317	0.4	211	66.6	1,080,919	18.2	998,793	18.7	82,126	8.2
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>70,527</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>76,908</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-6,381</b>	<b>-8.3</b>	<b>5,926,624</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5,354,039</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>572,585</b>	<b>10.7</b>
<i>Participation rate</i> <sup>(c)</sup>	28.0%		29.5%				60.5%		61.4%			
<i>Unemployment rate</i> <sup>(d)</sup>	4.4%		3.2%				6.6%		5.4%			

<sup>(a)</sup>This variable is applicable to persons 15 years and over.

<sup>(b)</sup>Persons aged under 15 years.

<sup>(c)</sup>The participation rate represents the labour force (total employed and unemployed who are actively looking for work) expressed as a % of the civilian population aged 15 years and over, in the same age group.

<sup>(d)</sup>The unemployment rate represents the number of unemployed persons expressed as a % of the labour force.

**Occupation, Italy-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011**

Occupation <sup>(a)</sup>	Italy-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Managers	2,903	15.5	3,538	16.2	-635	-17.9	369,921	13.5	332,931	13.2	36,990	11.1
Professionals	2,605	13.9	2,762	12.6	-157	-5.7	636,220	23.3	564,779	22.3	71,441	12.6
Technicians and trades workers	3,431	18.4	4,045	18.5	-614	-15.2	358,749	13.1	350,757	13.9	7,992	2.3
Community&personal serv. wkrs	1,697	9.1	1,389	6.4	308	22.2	289,348	10.6	234,380	9.3	54,968	23.5
Clerical & administrative workers	2,301	12.3	2,865	13.1	-564	-19.7	363,216	13.3	364,497	14.4	-1,281	-0.4
Sales workers	1,785	9.5	2,116	9.7	-331	-15.6	265,142	9.7	245,335	9.7	19,807	8.1
Machinery operators & drivers	1,295	6.9	1,776	8.1	-481	-27.1	159,193	5.8	154,542	6.1	4,651	3.0
Labourers	2,252	12.0	2,685	12.3	-433	-16.1	247,428	9.0	227,184	9.0	20,244	8.9
Not stated <sup>(b)</sup>	434	2.3	684	3.1	-250	-36.5	46,924	1.7	56,224	2.2	-9,300	-16.5
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>18,695</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>21,861</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-3,166</b>	<b>-14.5</b>	<b>2,736,125</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2,530,635</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>205,490</b>	<b>8.1</b>

<sup>(a)</sup>This variable is applicable to employed persons aged 15 years and over.

<sup>(b)</sup>Includes "Inadequately described".

**Industry of Employment, Italy-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011**

Industry of employment <sup>(a)</sup>	Italy-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Agri, forestry, fishing & mining	532	2.8	679	3.1	-147	-21.6	70,052	2.6	66,176	2.6	3,876	5.9
Manufacturing	1,777	9.5	3,004	13.7	-1,227	-40.8	212,723	7.8	271,051	10.7	-58,328	-21.5
Electr, gas, water & waste	144	0.8	162	0.7	-18	-11.1	30,808	1.1	27,630	1.1	3,178	11.5
Construction	2,210	11.8	2,938	13.4	-728	-24.8	228,149	8.3	210,972	8.3	17,177	8.1
Wholesale & retail trade	2,733	14.6	3,826	17.5	-1,093	-28.6	367,953	13.4	387,813	15.3	-19,860	-5.1
Accommod & Food services	1,910	10.2	1,279	5.9	631	49.3	180,825	6.6	153,898	6.1	26,927	17.5
Transp, postal & warehousing	888	4.7	1,115	5.1	-227	-20.4	130,069	4.8	118,214	4.7	11,855	10.0
Information, Media & Telecomm	198	1.1	249	1.1	-51	-20.5	52,200	1.9	50,091	2.0	2,109	4.2
Finance & Insurance	467	2.5	607	2.8	-140	-23.1	106,669	3.9	104,701	4.1	1,968	1.9
Rental, Hiring & Real Estate	335	1.8	334	1.5	1	0.3	43,013	1.6	35,046	1.4	7,967	22.7
Prof, Scientific, Tech & Admin	1,774	9.5	1,836	8.4	-62	-3.4	310,711	11.4	279,422	11.0	31,289	11.2
Public Admin & Safety	678	3.6	810	3.7	-132	-16.3	144,321	5.3	134,949	5.3	9,372	6.9
Education & Training	1,231	6.6	1,312	6.0	-81	-6.2	236,276	8.6	202,317	8.0	33,959	16.8
Health Care & Soc Assistance	1,491	8.0	1,618	7.4	-127	-7.8	341,999	12.5	292,417	11.6	49,582	17.0
Arts, Recreation & Other serv	1,178	6.3	1,347	6.2	-169	-12.5	151,019	5.5	134,750	5.3	16,269	12.1
Inadeq Described/Not Stated	1,149	6.1	748	3.4	401	53.6	129,326	4.7	61,173	2.4	68,153	111.4
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>18,695</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>21,861</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-3,166</b>	<b>-14.5</b>	<b>2,736,125</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2,530,635</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>205,490</b>	<b>8.1</b>

<sup>(a)</sup>This variable is applicable to employed persons aged 15 and over.

**Total Personal Income (Weekly), Italy-born and Total Victoria: 2016, 2011**

Total personal income, weekly <sup>(a)</sup>	Italy-born						Total Victoria					
	2016		2011		Change 2011-2016		2016		2011		Change 2011-2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Negative income	398	0.6	424	0.6	-26	-6.1	27,122	0.6	26,342	0.6	780	3.0
Nil income	4,583	6.5	3,878	5.1	705	18.2	467,934	9.7	351,430	8.1	116,504	33.2
\$1-399	26,176	37.4	39,883	52.1	-13,707	-34.4	975,345	20.1	1,224,693	28.1	-249,348	-20.4
\$400-\$799	20,533	29.3	14,536	19.0	5,997	41.3	1,118,244	23.1	964,124	22.1	154,120	16.0
\$800-\$1,249	7,225	10.3	7,212	9.4	13	0.2	811,256	16.7	715,662	16.4	95,594	13.4
\$1,250-\$1,999	4,574	6.5	3,938	5.1	636	16.2	658,020	13.6	491,972	11.3	166,048	33.8
\$2,000 or more	2,136	3.1	1,760	2.3	376	21.4	364,675	7.5	246,379	5.7	118,296	48.0
Not stated	4,372	6.2	4,962	6.5	-590	-11.9	423,108	8.7	334,649	7.7	88,459	26.4
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>70,001</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>76,584</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-6,583</b>	<b>-8.6</b>	<b>4,845,710</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,355,243</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>490,467</b>	<b>11.3</b>

<sup>(a)</sup>Applicable to persons aged 15 years and over.

This fact sheet is available for free download at [www.multicultural.vic.gov.au](http://www.multicultural.vic.gov.au), which also contains the Community Profiles series for birthplace groups, with more detailed tables on a wider range of demographic and socio-economic data.

Source of data: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Census of Population and Housing, 2016, 2011, 2006*.